

TWO SHORT SESSIONS.

But Little Business Transacted in Either Branch of Congress Yesterday.

The chair laid before the senate a communication from the commissioner of the general land office to the secretary of the interior, and by that officer referred to congress, asking for additional clerical force.

Also, a communication from the secretary of the interior, transmitting, in reply to a recent senate resolution, a report of the commissioner of the general land office giving information as to lands held by foreign corporations, such as the Estes Park company, the Arkansas Valley Land and Cattle company, and others. The commissioner of the land office, in his report, states that no entries have been made by these corporations, and that the lands held by them are held under assignments. When it was attempted to examine into the legality of the claims and assignments the committee on the public lands would not permit, and it was believed that they had been intimidated. Many claims are suspended for investigation. The commissioner represents that there are now 1,000 claims in the report before the land office, involving 1,000,000 acres, the claims for many millions of these acres being probably fraudulent; that the land office has endeavored to protect the government, so far as the money appropriated for the protection of the public domain will permit, which protection of the public domain larger appropriations and more adequate legislation are necessary, including a repeal of the pre-emption and timber culture laws.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Among petitions presented and referred were those of Mr. Ingalls from citizens of Kansas praying that Gen. John C. Fremont may be placed on the retired list, and one by Mr. Merrill, from citizens of the District of Columbia praying for the removal of the iron tracks of the Baltimore and Potomac railroad from the government reservation in Washington.

Mr. Ingalls gave notice that on Thursday next he would present a petition for a change in the route of steam railroads in Washington.

TO ABOLISH THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

Mr. Dawes (by request) introduced three bills that have already been before congress, but failed to pass, one to abolish the court of claims and another to extend the jurisdiction of the United States circuit court by giving it authority to hear and determine cases involving the use by the government of patents and inventions of private individuals or corporations, and also to prohibit agents on railroads and steamboats by requiring transportation companies to adopt such new inventions as may be approved by a commission to be appointed by the government. In introducing these bills Mr. Dawes said he did not desire to be understood as either favoring or opposing them.

At 12:45 p. m. the senate adjourned to Monday next.

THE HOUSE.

After the passage of a senate bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across Lake Champlain, and the sitting of Tuesday next for the consideration of the New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Vicksburg fortification bill, the house went into committee of the whole (Mr. Wellborn in the chair) on the proposed bill.

The committee remained in session for two hours, but its sitting was devoid of the slightest interest. The bulletin board in the lobby was the object which excited all attention, and the buzz of conversation was incessant. A noise was heard about it was borne into the house, making the dull proceedings noisy and confused.

At 12 o'clock, without transacting any business, the committee adjourned. The house took a recess until 6 o'clock; the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills.

At its evening session the house passed eighty-four pension bills and at 10 o'clock adjourned.

THE NIAGARA FALLS TRAGEDY.

Identification of Vedder's Body and Its Mutilated Condition—Where It Was Found.

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 6.—There is no longer any doubt as to the identity of the body found last night in Niagara Falls as being that of Thomas Vedder, one of the principals in the Vedder-Pearson tragedy on the 10th of last April. The body was found tightly wedged between two rocks, so that the head, shoulders, and right arm were visible. This morning the body was raised and placed in a boat and taken to Oakwood cemetery to await the coroner. The body was mutilated, especially the right leg was broken below the knee, the skin nearly half gone, the brains all passed away, and nothing but the bone visible. The teeth were all gone; one side of the face and neck were partially gone, only a few locks of gray hair clinging to the remaining portion of the skull. On the body was a gray ribbed undershirt and parts of a white shirt and trousers. The boots were missing. In the trouser pockets were found several pieces of silver coin, a knife, a safe key, and some other keys, which have been identified by the family; the safe key having proving beyond a doubt the identity of the body.

In the process of the search which remained there were no evidences of bullet wounds, and the cause of death will forever remain a mystery. Dr. Long, who examined the body, says all evidence as to whether Vedder was killed by shooting or otherwise will still remain a mystery, as the missing portions of the skull, which might have contained such evidence, are lost for ever.

The inquest will be held to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. The remains, after a thorough examination, will be interred to-day.

Investigation of the Brooklyn Site.

NEW YORK, June 6.—The subcommittee of the house of representatives appointed to re-open the investigation as to the purchase of the site for the proposed federal building in Brooklyn met to-day in that city. Mr. Hopkins occupied the chair. But one gentleman was in attendance who desired to make any statement. A Mr. Ford, a lawyer familiar with real estate valuation, gave it as his opinion that the site selected was worth about \$287,000. He did not know of any more eligible sites that could be bought for \$480,000. Other witnesses will be examined.

The Lutheran Ministerium.

READING, PA., June 6.—The Lutheran ministerium to-day elected Rev. Dr. J. F. Kiel, of New York city, president; Rev. C. Cooper, of South Bethlehem, Pa., English secretary, and Rev. J. C. Disinger, of Canfield, N. J., German secretary. The session to-day was opened in adopting the new constitution, considering qualifications of candidates for the ministry, and holding meeting for home mission.

The Morton Incident in the French Legislature.

PARIS, June 6.—The Morton incident, as it is called, is that the alleged special honor paid by Minister Morton to the Count of Paris, is to be made the occasion of an interpellation to the government in both the senate and the chamber of deputies. M. Schoelcher will move the interpellation for the senate and M. Léonard in the deputies.

Sullivan and Mitchell to Spar.

BOSTON, June 6.—A sparing match has been arranged between John L. Sullivan and Mitchell, the English pugilist, to occur at Madison Square garden, New York, on June 30. The contest will be a four-round one, the winner to take stakes and the loser 35 per cent. of the net receipts. Sullivan will train down thirty pounds to 197, and will go into training on Monday next.

Inoculation of Hydrophobia.

PARIS, June 6.—Numerous persons have applied to M. Pasteur and expressed their willingness to be inoculated with the modified virus which causes rabies. All such applications the scientist has refused to avail himself of until he shall have completed his experiments upon dumb animals. The final tests with animals will shortly be made before a government commission.

Minister Sargent Presents His Letters of Recall.

BERLIN, June 6.—Mr. Sargent had an audience with Emperor William to-day, and presented his letters of recall.

The Fifth Army Corps Reunion.

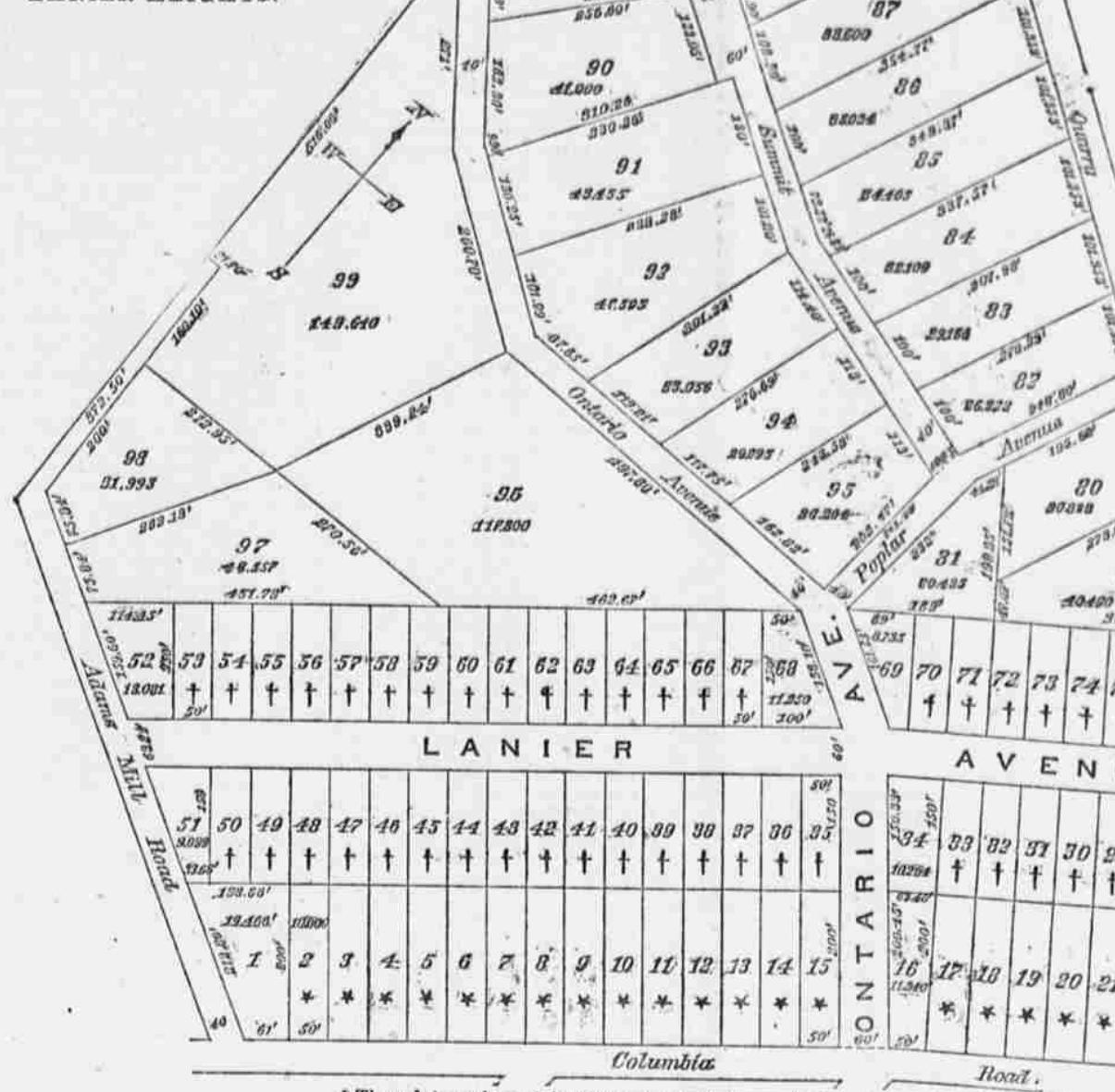
NEW YORK, June 6.—The Society of the Fifth Army Corps will meet in the county court house, corner of Fulton and Jayneau streets, Brooklyn, on Wednesday, June 11, at 10 a.m.

Bass Hall, Capitol Park to-day, 4:30 p. m.

Adulterated American Dairy Products.

LONDON, June 9.—In the house of commons to-day Mr. Duckham, liberal member of Herefordshire, asked the government to adopt measures to protect the public against the sale of adulterated Honorable George J. Dodson, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, stated that the inquiries made by the

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SUBDIVISION OF
"LANIER HEIGHTS."

* These lots each contain 10,000 square feet.

This fine tract of land on Columbia road, between Sixteenth and Eighteenth Streets, has been subdivided as shown on above plat, and is now offered for sale in lots at reasonable prices. The streets have just been graded and shade trees planted along the line of same. For Suburban Residence Sites or for investment nothing better is offered. Prices and plats furnished on application to

FITCH, FOX & BROWN, Real Estate Brokers.

1437 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.

Lots Have Been Sold as Follows:

18 to Mrs. Sarah Deland,
19 and 31 to Mr. Edwin Shufflebotham,
11, 12, 13, 37, 38, 39, and 93 to Mrs. Gen. Albert J. Myer,
91 to Mr. F. W. True,
85 to Dr. T. H. Bean,
82, 83, and 84 to Prof. F. P. Dewey,
58 and 59 to Wm. T. Hornaday.

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